

REMARKS

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Stein for allowing Claims 21-30. Applicants submit that previously presented Claim 34 would also be allowable since Claim 34 depends from allowed Claim 26.

Applicants also request that the Examiner rejoin withdrawn Claims 31-33. Claims 31-33 are process claims which depend from or otherwise contain all limitations of allowed claims and therefore should be rejoined. (M.P.E.P. § 821.04).

Finally, Applicants have included a certified copy of the priority document DE 101 63 939.2 filed December 21, 2001. Applicants request that the Examiner acknowledge Applicants' claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119.

In light of the remarks contained herein, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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